(c) The Department of Energy and Department of Panchayat and Rural Development of MP have directed all the Collectors of Madhya Pradesh to ask the Gram Panchayats to clear street light arrears out of the land revenue and Cess grant sanctioned to them. On payment of approximately Rs. 33 lakhs towards street light arrears, 3589 connections have been re-connected.

Setting up of A Gas Based Power Station near Kakinada

3540. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC acquired land for setting up of a gas based power station near Kakinada;

(b) if so, how many acres of agricultural land was acquired;

(c) by when the power station is likely to be set up and by when the construction work is likely to begin;

(d) what outlay for the project is proposed to be sanctioned during the 1993-94 budget; and

(e) what are the reasons of delay in construction work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) 592.13 acres of agricultural land has been acquired by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for the gas based power project near Kakinada.

(c) to (e) The project was earlier envisaged for implementation by the NTPC. The project will now be implemented as a joint venture with equity participation of NTPC on a monetary basis. The NTPC has provided an amount of Rs. 20 crores for 1993-94 for its joint venture projects which, inter-alia, includes outlay for this project also. Environment clearance for the project is awaited. The reduced availability of gas has necessitated a revised feasibility report which needs clearance from the Central Electicity Authority. The compeletion schedule would be known only after the requisite clearances have been obtained.

Machinery for Thermal Power Station at Etawah

3541. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry have approved a Thermal Power Station in Etawah district of Uttar Pradesh with a condition to procure machinery exclusively from Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Limited; if so, what are the terms of the contract;

(b) whether there was any understanding between Government and Mitsubishi on payment of statutory taxes;

(c) if so, the details thereof and also the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Limited were procuring parts/components from Indian companies and supplying to NTPC as manufactured by Mitsubishi;

(e) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh has registered a case against Mitsubishi for evasion of sales tax;

(f) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(g) whether such an act is in violation of the terms of contract and what action Government propose to take against Mitsubishi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. In the Government's approval, there is no condition regarding procurement of machinery for National Thermal Power Corporation's (NTPC) Auraiya Gas Based Power Project at Etawah district, U.P. This project was implemented by NTPC with financial assistance from the World Bank and the procurement of main plant packages was done as per International Competitive Bidding procedure. The Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) was awarded the contract for the equipment of the project as the firm was the lowest evaluated bidder. The Contracts entered into between NTPC and the MHI had clear provisions regarding liability of taxes and duties in accordance with the applicable laws and the World Bank procurement guidlines. There were two contracts—one